Dear Dave, re Dr. Charles Crenshaw's (it says) 4/10/92
"JFK:Conspiracy of Silence"

This Signet pocketbook paperback has trouble making 203 pages with large type and a great amount of blank paper because of the format, brief snippits with large-type subheads and subsubheads.

Which is good, the book is that bad.

For those who caught the doctor's TV appearances no real purpose was served by getting and reading the book because what he said on TV, that LBJ phoned him during the effort to save Oswald, and told him he wanted a death-bed confession, three lines at the top of 187, is the only thing new in the book.

Other than some of Gary Shaw's improvisations and manufactures that I do not remember from his own book and as in that book, lacking support.

Shaw, according to the book (205) is "one of the world's leading authorities on the Kennedy assassination."

He and the writer, Jens Hansen are on the cover and title pages as "with" Crenshaw.

The intro is by John David.

The book is not tainted by notes, not suddied with fact or sources (consistent with being a first-person doctor's account most of which has little to do with the assassination), not desecrated by common sense or reason and it soars with unsupported flights of conspiracy allegations only one of which is new, cited above, aside from Crenshaw's being another of the Dallas doctors to day that JFK was shot from the front, which does mean that there was a ~~conspiracy~~ conspiracy.

Crenshaw manages to get himself into the emergency room and to make observations on what he then saw earlier than in fact he got there and in the course of this, either from his own knowledge or from his world-famous authority, even to give the available account of what happened immediately that - published in 1975, of Carrico's observations and instructions to the nurses and what the nurses then did. Some of his "observations," like how the Secret Service man ("men in suits") knocked the FBI SA down, are not in accord with other first-person accounts, like Senator Yarborough's. And it is without any explanation.

Most of this book, thin even with padding, is Gary Shaw and has nothing to do with what Crenshaw knew or saw or was told, and virtually all of that is, at its very best, dubious when not incorrect. Its basic allegation of a government conspiracy has not even a whiff of proof but it does make a case that the doctors kept their mouths shut out of fear of reprisal without any overt threat of reprisal, the "conspiracy of silence." That Crensahw's loss of fear came, after more than 28 years, precisely when the Oliver Stone movie was the center of a great constroversy that added to the sales of a series of books of exploitive nature, coinciding with a promising market, is no doubt only a coincidence. Hensen foisted Shaw off on Crenshaw as a great and reknowned authority.

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